



# 1964 Round 4 Saturday 25th April Pratten Park



## North Sydney 14

def.

## Western Suburbs 13

Fred GRIFFITHS (C)  
Ken IRVINE  
Mick MAHER  
Denis CUBIS  
John AMBRUM  
Len DIETT  
Dinny O'BRYAN  
Eric BARNES  
Bill CANE  
Don DOAK  
Bill WILSON  
Ross WARNER  
Lloyd WEIER  
Eddie MAY

**Fullback**  
**Wing**  
**Centre**  
**Centre**  
**Wing**  
**Five-eighth**  
**Half**  
**Lock**  
**Second Row**  
**Second Row**  
**Front Row**  
**Hooker**  
**Front Row**  
**Replacement**

Ken BRAY  
John MOWBRAY  
Gil MacDOUGALL  
Rob McGUINNESS  
Peter DIMOND  
Arthur SUMMONS (c)  
Don MALONE  
Jim CODY  
John ARMSTRONG  
John HAYES  
Denis MEANEY  
Ken OWENS  
Noel KELLY



### Tries

Eric BARNES  
Ken IRVINE

Peter DIMOND  
Don MALONE  
John HAYES

### Goals

Fred GRIFFITHS (4)

Ken BRAY (2)

### Match Description

**Western Suburbs:** Full-back: K Bray; three-quarters: J Mowbray, R McGuinness, G MacDougall, P Dimond; five-eighth: A Summons (c); half: D Malone; forwards: J Cody, J Hayes, J Armstrong, D Meaney, K Owens, N Kelly

**North Sydney:** Full-back: F Griffiths (c); three-quarters: K Irvine, M Maher, D Cubis, J Ambrum; five-eighth: L Diett; half: D O'Bryan; forwards: E Barnes, W Cane, D Doak, W Wilson, R Warner, L Weier **Referee: J Bradley (as per program Rugby League News 25th/26th April 1964 + newspaper validations)**

A nerveless goal by Norths' Rugby League captain Fred Griffiths, seconds from the finish, yesterday earned his team a 14-13 win over Wests. Griffiths kicked the sharply-angled goal to convert a try he had engineered to snatch a last-second win at Pratten Park. With calm dispatch Griffiths lined up the kick, took his four paces and sent the ball spinning towards the goal. Norths' fans gasped as the ball appeared to be heading wide of the posts. Then they roared as both touch judges converged on the right goal post and raised their flags. It was a close thing – possibly little more than a foot inside the post. For the second time this season, Wests “threw away” a win with sloppy handling only minutes from the finish. Three minutes from the finish, big Denis Meaney dropped a pass which enabled Norths to gain possession for their last stirring effort. Griffiths loomed up in a movement, slipped a tackle, went the “blind” side and speared out a pass to lock Eric Barnes who dived over. Then came Griffiths' great goal. It was a fitting climax which could be dubbed “Griffiths' Game.” This former South African and Wigan full-back has never been seen in a more devastating mood than in yesterday's second half. He led his team out for the second half down 4-13 and with his forwards still trying to overcome the loss of their astute leader Bill Wilson. Wilson had his head gashed open 10 minutes after the start when he collided with his hooker, Ross Warner. He left the field and had four stitches inserted in the deep gash across the front of his head. Eddie May replaced him. In an inspiring exhibition of leadership, Griffiths “whipped” his players into a grand second-half rally. He came into the attack on many occasions and was always dangerous. ...Norths' effort appeared likely to founder after Test winger Ken Irvine had scored a quick-thinking try, 18 minutes from the finish. Irvine, stopped less than a yard from the line, toed the ball forward, weaved his way between a couple of players, dived and touched down with his arm at full stretch. Wests clung to their lead but dropped passes and some indifferent defence enabled Norths to gradually assert themselves. In these closing moments Norths let chances go begging when their centres, particularly Denis Cubis, hung on to the ball rather than let it out to Irvine. Wildly flung passes saw other movements break down when the Wests' defence was strung out, paper thin. Wests had looked good in the first half. Indeed, they played some of their best football this season in scoring three tries to lead 13-4. They had found holes in Norths' defence, particularly among the forwards who were badly disorganised after the loss of Wilson. But Wests were a different team in the second half. They seemed to run out of condition. The man with the ball was not supported and the defence was unsure. The forwards became leaden-legged and on many occasions one of the backs had to rush in to mark the Norths' man playing the ball. It was an untidy performance – one which will certainly cause the selectors some thoughts in choosing the team for next week. **(Sun-Herald 26th April 1964)**

**Notes:** Wests seemed to have this game in the bag, leading 13-4 at half-time and in control. They became ragged in the second half however, and let Norths back into the game. Leading 13-9 with a minute to go Eric Barnes dived over in the corner and Fred Griffiths coolly landed the conversion from the sideline.